

# **NEWS** Utah Labor Commission

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Utah OSHA Consultation announces: "2010 YOUTH WORKER SUMMER SAFETY CAMPAIGN"**

**SALT LAKE CITY, June 14, 2010** - In an effort to increase awareness of the importance of teen summer job safety, the Utah Labor Commission Occupational Safety and Health Consultation Program (Utah OSHA Consultation) announces its annual ***YOUTH WORKER SUMMER SAFETY CAMPAIGN***. "Teenagers are twice as likely to be hurt on the job as are their adult co-workers", said Utah Labor Commissioner Sherrie Hayashi. "Nationally, approximately 158,000 sustain work-related injuries, with 52,600 injuries serious enough to be treated in the emergency room.

In 2008, 34 youth under the age of 18 died from work-related injuries. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the leading causes of teenage deaths on the job during 2008 are: motor vehicle accidents; contact with electric current; oxygen deficiency, i.e., drowning, choking on an object or substance, depletion of oxygen in an enclosed, restricted or confined space; assaults and violent acts; and exposure to harmful environment or substance.

Each year, the Utah Labor Commission OSHA Consultation Program provides two booklets pertaining to Youth Workers and Workplace Safety.

**"A Parent's Guide to Youth Workers"** gives parents tools to talk with their children regarding safety practices in their workplace. The guide also contains information about what jobs a youth in Utah can and cannot do, listed by age; how to access the employers safety record (OSHA Compliance Inspections); who to contact if a youth has been injured, harassed, lost wages, placed in an unsafe position, or is asked to work excessive hours; and the Labor Commission's new online service, Workers' CompCheck, which can verify whether or not an employer carries workers' compensation insurance.

*More. . .*

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**"The Youth Workers' Guide to Workplace Safety"** provides information to the youth of Utah regarding their rights as workers. This guide also contains information on how to identify workplace hazards; how to keep safe in the summer sun ; what jobs youth in Utah can and cannot do, listed by age; who to contact if a youth has been injured, harassed, not paid wages, placed in an unsafe position, or works excessive hours.

For more information regarding these two booklets, please contact Kate McNeill, Utah OSHA Consultation Program Manager at 801-530-6855, or via e-mail at [kmcneill@utah.gov](mailto:kmcneill@utah.gov). The booklets are also available for download on the Labor Commission website:

<http://www.laborcommission.utah.gov/UOSH/Outreach/OutreachMaterials.html>

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